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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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COUNTRY Ecuador

DATE DISTR. 17 October 1952

SUBJECT Activities of the Federacion Provincial
de Trabajadores del Guayas (FPTG)

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE OF
INFO. 25X1ANO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]25X1X SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

- The Communist-dominated Federacion Provincial de Trabajadores del Guayas (FPTG), continues to parallel the Communist Party line closely and to work in conjunction with the Partido Comunista del Ecuador (PCE) against common enemies, such as Carlos Guevara Moreno, Mayor of Guayaquil, and the United States.¹

1. On 12 August 1952 a meeting of the FPTG delegates, some 30 in all, was held at the federation's Guayaquil headquarters. Segundo Ramos Navarrete, prominent Communist and Secretary-General of the FPTG, made a brief address analyzing the past achievements of the federation. He bitterly criticized the propaganda commission for not functioning properly and failing to distribute leaflets and wall posters which had been printed at the expense of the near-bankrupt FPTG. On the other hand, he praised the commission charged with organizing a benefit dance to raise funds for the federation. Ramos next proposed a series of stereotyped resolutions, such as the following:

The FPTG stands for :

- Higher wages and salaries
- Abolition of short-term contracts
- Lower prices
- A continuing fight against Carlos Guevara Moreno
- Better social security coverage
- Stronger labor organizations
- A fight against those taking land from poor farmers.

All of these resolutions were approved. Ramos ended his address by urging the delegates to encourage support for the workers of the Witting Shipyard, who, it appeared, would soon go on strike. The workers' troubles were blamed on the United States, as represented by Francis Vincent Coleman, American manager of the company.

2. Victor Munoz, PCE member from Estero Claro, Chilcales, next took the floor and explained that the farmers in that area were being unjustly deprived of their

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land and that those who resisted these incursions were taken prisoner and sent to jail.²

3. On 22 August another meeting was held at FPTG headquarters. Three points were brought up for discussion, and the following resolutions resulted from these deliberations:
 - a. The FPTG vehemently protests the attempts being made by the Ecuadoran National Assembly to disqualify Pedro Saad, Secretary-General of the PCE, and Manuel Agustin Aguirre, Secretary-General of the Partido Socialista del Ecuador (PSE), as Functional Senators for Labor. Resolutions of solidarity would be sent to Quito by all affiliated unions of the FPTG.
 - b. The FPTG condemns the actions of Carlos Guevara Moreno and protests before the masses. A protest meeting would be held at the Sociedad de Carpinteros on 5 September 1952.
 - c. The FPTG fully supports the class struggle being waged by the workers of the Witting Shipyard and calls upon all affiliated unions to give financial aid to the workers who would soon go on strike. Token solidarity strikes of one-hour duration would be held as a sign of support for the workers.
4. On 27 August the financial commission of the FPTG met to discuss results of a fund-raising dance held at the Sociedad de Carpinteros on 23 August. It was determined that \$1065 were collected and \$340 were outstanding. This money was to be turned over to the FPTG treasury.
5. FPTG meetings which had been scheduled for 28 and 29 August were canceled when an insufficient number of delegates appeared on these dates. Those delegates who went to FPTG headquarters on 28 August received the wording of slogans to be painted on posters and pasted on walls throughout Guayaquil during the course of the following week. These slogans followed the usual PCE pattern in denouncing Guevara, the United States, the military pact, and "La Semana de la Ecuatorianidad".
6. A meeting was held on 1 September, at which time Segundo Ramos Navarrete explained that the local Lions' Club had approached the FPTG to obtain the support of the workers for a new children's hospital to be built in Guayaquil. Most of the cost of the hospital, an estimated \$20,000,000, would be furnished by commercial firms and well-to-do individuals, but the Lions' Club hoped to obtain some support from the laboring classes which would most benefit from the hospital. Elias Munoz, Communist and FPTG member, denounced this as a plan to drain funds from the workers. Ramos next brought up the matter of the Witting strikers and again urged the delegates to do everything in their power to aid in this class struggle.
7. Plans were made for a large public assembly to be held on 5 September at the Sociedad de Carpinteros, and all affiliated unions were urged to distribute leaflets and posters publicizing this meeting. Alberto Santos Moria, Ecuadoran Communist, read a report on the financial success of the dance held on 23 August 1952.
8. On 2 September members of the strike committee of the FPTG met and decided to visit the offices of Francis Vincent Coleman, of the Witting Shipyard. Twelve delegates of the FPTG called on Coleman on 3 September to plead the cause of the striking workers. These delegates were led by Marco Tulio Oramas, Ecuadoran Communist. Coleman explained that the "fly in the ointment" impeding settlement of the strike was Jorge Maldonado Reneila, Ecuadoran Communist, who was apparently attempting to bribe Coleman to settle the strike in return for some \$3,000 to be paid to Maldonado. On 3 September the FPTG delegates visited the striking Witting workers to express their solidarity.

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9. The public assembly of 5 September was generally considered by the FPTG to have been a failure. Some 300 persons in all attended. Principal speakers at this assembly were Segundo Ramos Navarrete, Pascual Palomino, and Guillermo Canarte Canarte. A number of resolutions were passed, among them resolutions denouncing the military pact and calling for a fight for peace. In general, these all followed the usual Communist line.

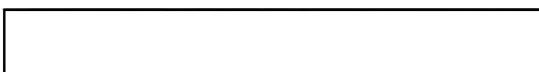
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1. [REDACTED] Comment. The principal speakers at all of the FPTG meetings were members of the PCE. PCE-FPTG collaboration appears to be closer than ever and no effort seems to be made to cover up this fact. See [REDACTED]

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. The PCE has in the past urged farmers to settle on land owned by others. When an attempt is later made to evict them much publicity is devoted to the "stealing" of the lands of these small farmers by rich and greedy feudalistic landlords.

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